United Nations A/70/446–S/2015/823

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 October 2015

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventieth session
Agenda item 95
Prevention of an arms race in outer space

Security Council
Seventieth year

Letter dated 26 October 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement of the Member States of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, which was delivered at a meeting of the First Committee of the seventieth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 95 on 23 October 2015 (see annex).

I request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 95, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Zohrab **Mnatsakanyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 26 October 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Joint statement by the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in support of a draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and the threat or use of force against outer space objects

The States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) share the concern of the international community at the risk of an arms race in outer space.

While remaining committed to the goal of keeping outer space free from weapons and ensuring that it is used exclusively for peaceful purposes, we believe that this problem can be resolved only by means of the adoption of a legally binding instrument.

The draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, an updated version of which was introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in June 2014, could serve as the basis for such an instrument.

We call upon States to work together to ensure the early commencement of negotiations on an instrument at the Conference on Disarmament.